

## Message Text

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70

ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SEC-03 JUSE-00 L-03 PPT-02 FBIE-00 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 H-02

TRSE-00 COME-00 SCA-01 SS-15 NSC-10 SY-10 /091 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ CEN/ CR: JGSULLIVAN: SLC

5/11/73 EXT 20848

APPROVED BY ARA: JHCRIMMINS

ARA/ LA/ PAF: KMARSHALL ( DRAFT)

ARA/ CEN: DLAZAR

----- 041665

P 112350 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PGOV, EFIN, C

SUBJECT- VESCO INDICTMENT

1. ROBERT L. VESCO INDICTED MAY 10 BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN NEW YORK FOR ATTEMPTING TO OBSTRUCT AN INVESTIGATION BY THE SEC INTO VESCO' S FINANCIAL EMPIRE. HARRY L. SEARS ALSO INDICTED ON SAME CHARGES.

2. MAY 11 WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ALSO REPORTS THAT " THE GRAND JURY ALSO CHARGED THAT IN JULY, 1972, VESCO CAUSED ' THE PRESIDENT OF COSTA RICA, JOSE FIGUERES, TO SEND A LETTER ADDRESSED TO RICHARD M. NIXON, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, SPECIFICALLY REFERRING TO THE SEC INVESTIGATION OF VESCO AND INDICATING HIS CONCERN THAT ADVERSE PUBLICITY EMANATING FROM THE SEC AGAINST VESCO MIGHT JEOPARDIZE DEVELOPMENT OF COSTA RICA AS A SHOWPLACE OF DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE."

"( DURING THE TRIAL OF THE SEC' S CIVIL ACTION TODAY, MARTI  
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FIGUERES, SON OF THE COSTA RICAN PRESIDENT, REFUSED TO HAVE A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH SEC ATTORNEYS ON THE GROUND THAT THEY HAVE BEEN UNFAIR TO ' ME, MY FAMILY AND MY COUNTRY.'"

3. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S NOON PRESS BRIEFING ON AN " IF ASKED" BASIS. NO QUESTIONS ASKED.

SUBJECT: VESCO INDICTMENT

Q: HAS THE DEPARTMENT HAD A REQUEST FOR EXTRADITION OF ROBERT VESCO FROM ANY OF THE AUTHORITIES INVOLVED IN THE CASE?

SUGGESTED REPLY:  
NO.

Q: DOES THE DEPARTMENT KNOW WHERE VESCO IS? IS HE IN COSTA RICA?

SUGGESTED REPLY:

WE DO NOT KNOW HIS WHEREABOUTS.

( ADVISORY: THE SAN JOSE PRESS REPORTS HE IS NOT IN COSTA RICA AT PRESENT. HE HAS BEEN CALLED TO TESTIFY BEFORE A COSTA RICAN LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE EARLY NEXT WEEK.)

Q: IF VESCO IS IN COSTA RICA, IS COSTA RICA SHELTERING A FUGITIVE FROM AMERICAN JUSTICE?

SUGGESTED REPLY:

WITHOUT A REQUEST FOR VESCO'S EXTRADITION, ONE CANNOT SAY THAT ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY IS SHELTERING A FUGITIVE FROM AMERICAN JUSTICE.

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT PRESIDENT FIGUERES' LETTER TO PRESIDENT NIXON INDICATING HIS CONCERN THAT ADVERSE PUBLICITY CONNECTED WITH THE SEC INVESTIGATION OF VESCO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MIGHT JEOPARDIZE COSTA RICA'S IMAGE?

SUGGESTED REPLY:

WE HAVE NO COMMENT ON MATTERS CURRENTLY BEFORE THE COURTS OR INVOLVING PRESIDENT- TO- PRESIDENT COMMUNICATIONS. DECONTROL MAY 10, 1974

ROGERS

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Drafter:** JGSULLIVAN: SLC  
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**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2002 by golinofr>  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980217  
**Subject:** - VESCO INDICTMENT  
**TAGS:** EFIN, PGOV, C  
**To:** SAN JOSE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005